## Law Offices

## MICHAEL D. HARPER, P.C.

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October 3, 2018

## VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REOUESTED

Theodore "Ted" Jackson, Sheriff Fulton County Sheriff's Office 185 Central Ave. S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Chairman Robb Pitts
Fulton County Board of Commissioners
141 Pryor Street SW
10th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Liz Hausmann, District 1
Fulton County Board of Commissioners
141 Pryor Street SW
10th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Bob Ellis, Vice Chairman District 2 Fulton County Board of Commissioners 141 Pryor Street SW 10th Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Lee Morris, District 3
Fulton County Board of Commissioners
141 Pryor Street SW
10th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Natalie Hall, District 4
Fulton County Board of Commissioners
141 Pryor Street SW
10th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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Marvin S. Arrington Jr., District 5 Fulton County Board of Commissioners 141 Pryor Street SW 10th Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Emma I. Darnell, District 6 Fulton County Board of Commissioners 141 Pryor Street SW 10th Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: Ante Litem Notice Regarding Antonio D. May (Deceased)

Dear Sheriff Jackson and the Fulton County Board of Commissioners:

This law firm, in association with The Reese Firm, LLC, represents the heirs and the Estate of Antonio D. May (deceased). Pursuant to O.C.G.A § 36-11-1, this correspondence constitutes a formal ante litem notice to Theodore "Ted" Jackson, Sheriff of Fulton County in his official capacity as the official jailer of Fulton County, GA, and to Fulton County, Georgia, regarding the wrongful death of Antonio May (a 32 year old father of three minor boys), which occurred at the Fulton County, GA jail at 901 Rice St. NW Atlanta, Georgia 30318 on September 11, 2018.

The claims against Sheriff Jackson and Fulton County are based upon the actions of the detention officers at the Fulton County jail. These officers violated the United States and Georgia Constitutional rights of Mr. May and caused his death. Specifically, on the morning of September 11, 2011 at around 8:58 am Mr. May was booked into the Fulton County jail on charges of criminal trespass. While in a holding cell and before being placed in general population Mr. May allegedly removed his clothing, pleasured himself and refused to put his hands behind his back upon request in order to be placed in a restraining chair in the holding cell. Mr. May was then confronted by six officers. The officers then tased him, put a stun gun on his body on at least two separate places and then sprayed pepper spray in his face. Mr. May was then placed in the restraining chair and decontaminated in the shower area. When the water from the shower did not remove all of the pepper spray the officers put a water hose to Mr. May's face while he was restrained in the chair. Minutes after he was decontaminated Mr. May went unresponsive and died outside of the shower area on the floor of the Fulton County Jail. These officers tortured Mr. May and then killed him. Their actions were clearly excessive force based on the totality of the circumstances, and tragically caused Mr. May his life. There was no need for the officers to confront Mr. May in the cell. Mr. May was alone in the cell and did not pose a threat to anyone. Moreover, Mr. May was a small man weighing less than 175 lb. Clearly, six officers could have restrained a small naked man in a holding cell without resorting to such lethal force. Mr. May's family is devastated. His senseless death leaves his three sons, ages 4, 6 and 13 without a father.

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We are willing to meet with Fulton County officials in order to resolve this matter. Please contact us by **November 2, 2018** if you wish to participate in mediation efforts. If not, we will be forced to file a legal action against Fulton County, GA, Sheriff Theodore Jackson in his official capacity, and the Fulton County Jail detention officers involved in this altercation in their individual and official capacity. We are prepared to seek **\$25,000,000.00** on behalf of Mr. Antonio May's children based the unconstitutional actions of these detention officers as well as the inadequate policies, procedures and customs adopted by Sheriff Jackson and the Fulton County, GA Commissioners which led to the death of Antonio May.

Should you have any questions or concerns or if you wish to discuss the matter in further detail please let us know immediately. We look forward to your timely response.

Very truly yours,

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Michael D. Harper, Attorney at Law

MDH/clj

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